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P. GORMAN, John
CIA 1020 WALTERS,

ORGI NATIONAL Counter
Intelligence Corp.
Association

CIA's top aide defends U.S. need for secrecy in intelligence activities

By John Gorman

THE UNITED STATES may have to conduct its affairs in a "fishbowl" as a result of congressional investigations of the Central Intelligence Agency, the CIA deputy director predicted here Saturday night.

Lt. Gen. Vernon Walters, number two man at the CIA, said that if any country could function in the "fishbowl" conditions, the U.S. would be the first to do so.

Speaking to an enthusiastic audience of more than 200 persons at the National Counter Intelligence Corps Association dinner in the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel, Walters warned the former World War II intelligence officers that the "wreckers are getting ready to dismantle the intelligence service again."

"We're told today that it is un-American to have things secret," he said.

TO COMBAT this notion, Walters quoted George Washington, who told a subordinate in a letter that the "need for procuring good intelligence is so obvious" that it need hardly be mentioned.

While ambassador to France, Benjamin Franklin ran a printing press forg-

ing passports, Walters reminded the crowd.

Walters defended the CIA as a reflection of the American people, made up of average Americans. He said that the CIA conception of what is right and wrong reflects the attitudes of the citizens. If that conception changes, he said, "we are perfectly willing to change also."

DEFENDING THE CIA's recently disclosed role in the 1953 suicide of a civilian Army employe who had been given LSD, Walters recalled the public sentiment at the time.

"It was a time when fighting men for the first time in history were refusing to come back home from the Korean War. [Josef] Cardinal Mindzenty appeared hollow-eyed and confessed. The feeling at the time was that this had been done with drugs. We were convinced the other side was using mind-controlling drugs," Walters said.

There is a current popular idea that "we must throw everything out and thus be cleansed. But if we do this, we may well be cleaned out. This idea is insanity insofar as the safety of the United States is concerned," he said.

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ORGI NATIONAL Counter
INTELLIGENCE Corps
Association

JURCO, Stephen
10 June 1975

CIA 1.02 WALTERS, VERNON
(orig under ORGI)

Mr. Stephen Jurco
President
The National Counter Intelligence Corps Association
135 South La Salle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Dear Mr. Jurco:

Mr. Colby has received your very kind letter inviting him to address the National Counter Intelligence Corps Association Convention in Chicago on August 2, 1975, and he has asked me to reply on his behalf. It is my understanding, through informal contact with one of your members, that you are aware Mr. Colby has another commitment on that date and that he has suggested that I address the Convention instead. If this is agreeable to you, I will be very happy to do so.

You may contact my office to make final arrangements by calling area code 703, 351-1100.

Sincerely,

[s] Vernon A. Walters

Vernon A. Walters
Lieutenant General, USA
Deputy Director

Distribution:

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- 1 - Mr. Vaivada, DDO/SE/RR
- 1 - ER

75-4898

26 February 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: William E. Colby

FROM : Anthony S. Vaivada, DDO/SE/RR,
Room 4D02, Headquarters,
Extensions 6871, Red-1925

SUBJECT : Planned Invitation to DCI to Address
CIC Convention in Chicago

1. The attached background correspondence deals with a request for an informal indication of possible DCI interest in considering a proposed invitation to deliver the principal address at the 28th National Counter Intelligence Corps Association (NCICA) Convention in Chicago, Illinois, between 31 July and 3 August 1975, at the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel. Rear Admiral R. Hillenkoeter, Mr. Lyman B. Kirkpatrick and other CIA officials have addressed such conventions in the past.

2. NCICA members are largely World War II, G-2, and CIC veterans, some of whom now serve as elected government officials, judges, prosecutors, and law enforcement officials, or as members of law firms and business organizations. The convention itself normally is partly a sentimental journey into the past, and partly a serious effort to keep abreast of, and to give moral support to, the U.S. Intelligence and Security effort. The choice of agenda and other speakers for the convention will depend in long measure on whether the DCI's appearance is a practical possibility.

3. At this point a most tentative indication of the DCI's interest in the matter or its impracticality will be greatly appreciated. My own function in this connection is purely one of an intermediary stemming from my wartime CIC service under General O. Koch in the Third U.S. Army and friendships within NCICA. I am a retired CIA employee and temporarily back on duty under contract.

Anthony S. Vaivada
Anthony S. Vaivada

Attachment